AZ Medicaid Technical Consortium Meeting

January 4, 2005
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
AHCCCS 701 E. Jefferson St. – 3rd Floor - Gold Room

Meeting Hosted By: Lori Petre, AHCCCS

Attendees:

(Based on sign-in sheets)

ADHS	Care 1st Arizona (cont.)	PHP
Lee Cisney	*Bill Hobbs (teleconference)*	*JoAnn Ward*
Hugh Doctorman	*Ann Weeks*	**PINAL LTC**
AHCCCS	**CHS**	*Susan Murphy (teleconference)*
Dick Azzi	*Marcia Goerdt (teleconference)*	**PHS**
Deborah Burrell	**DES**	*Mark Hart (teleconference)*
Barbara Butler	*Pat Fizer*	*Marcia LeBlanc*
Ester Hunt	*Marcella Gonzales*	**UFC**
Dora Lambert	**HCSD**	*Kim Bolton*
Brent Ratterree	*Michael Wells (teleconference)*	*Kathy Steiner*
Linda Stubblefield	**Healthchoice AZ**	*John Valentino*
Mike Upchurch	*Jessicka Lennick*	**UHC**
Nancy Upchurch	*Mark Messer*	*Jack Holstrom (teleconference)*
APIPA	*Joan Toland (teleconference)*	*Kathy Steiner*
Lucy Markov	**MCP & Schaller**	*Ramana Tunuguntla*
Charles Revenew	*Cathy Jackson-Smith*	**Verizon**
Care 1st Arizona	**Melanee Jones**	*Larry Bryce*
Michael Boisseau	*Art Schenkman*	
Anna Castaneda		

Welcome (Lori Petre)
Good morning, thank you for making your way here to meet with us. The Technical Consortium is the first meeting of the morning, to be followed by the Outpatient Consortium. The first item of the meeting is, as always, the minutes. If you have any corrections or items that were excluded, please let us know. These minutes are uploaded to the website for your convenience.

Outpatient Fee Schedule Project Status (Lori Petre)
Outpatient Fee Schedule Project will be covered in the meeting immediately after this one. We are starting to do Status Reporting with the Health Plans and internal testing. We do have test plans and the initial identification of a control group of claims that we'll be using for testing. If you want to know more about this, you're welcome to stay for the next meeting.

AHCCCS Member ID Change (Dennis Koch)
The AHCCCS Member ID Change was completed, as of December 29th, 2004. You should have files with terminated members as of December 29th, a second file with deceased members who died in the last year. There were no issues with the Member ID Change. We're pretty much closing this project out now.

BBA (Dennis Koch)
I have heard of no issues, although there is still testing going on. Everything appears to be going smoothly. Reports should be received daily. I'm unaware of anything still outstanding on the BBA.

Lori Petre – There is an issue with the BBA test and production email addresses we have supplied. These are intended only for the certification emails. We are getting a lot of other emails sent to them, specifically requests to add or remove personnel from the certification list. This is causing errors with the email. There is no mechanized process to get at your requests. So, your requests are lost. Please send only the BBA certification emails to that email address. Anything else you send, will not be addressed.

HP – What is the turnaround time for receiving a TA1 or 997 once you've dropped a file? We've received an email on December 27, relating you received the file we sent on that date, but no 997.
Dennis Koch – The TA1 or 997 will not be sent without a certified email. It will stay on the hold list until the certified mail is received. Once its certified, the file is released, and picked up for processing. The processing cycle for the purposes of testing, runs every half hour during business hours.
HP– we received the verifying email the same day.
Dennis Koch – I will look into that.

ACTION ITEM: (A-837-00429) Assigned to Dennis Koch

HP – Can I please get the correct email address? We've just been sending them to Lori.
Dennis Koch – Please send the test emails to BBATest@azahcccs.gov and production emails to BBA@azahcccs.gov.

HP – Have new ID cards been mailed?
Dennis Koch – Yes, the plan was that we convert the IDs on Thursday, and we'd have the new cards mailed by the following Monday or Tuesday. By now, everyone should have his or her new ID cards.

HP – If we're sending the certifying email to the correct address, how long should it take to receive the responding TA1 or 997.
Dennis Koch – If you send the certified email, for prod files it will sweep every 30 minutes. For test files it should be almost instantaneous. If its not working that way, please contact us.

HP – Were all the Member IDs changed to Non-numeric, or just the SSNs?
Dennis Koch – All, because we didn't have any way to determine which was an SSN and which was not.

HP – Are there some that haven't been changed?

Dennis Koch – If it is older than a year, we will not change it. If they renew, it will be under a new ID. There had to be a logical cutoff.

Encounters 837/277U (Lori Petre)
You will find an email in your packet relating to the Null Load of the Encounters Testing region. This was completed. The Null Load cleared out the databases, so it is a completely clean Test Environment. If you sent encounters before, you should be able to send them through again, if you like.

We are hoping to have a complete list of all issues relating to the 277U and the NCPDP, both open and closed with resolutions. We apologize for the delay, but we should have it out shortly.

Also, there is an email relating to the holiday weekends where we gave Mike's staff the weekends off from cycle runs. Brent and I have been talking about this, and we've alluded to this in previous meetings: we want to go to a single Encounter cycle per week for testing. We are waiting on Mike's staff to recommend the best day. By running the cycle twice, the Encounters on-call staff has not been getting weekends off. We are waiting on this recommendation as to which day is best. It will be a couple of weeks out, and we'll give you enough notice prior to any change.

We've been running 277U and proprietary Encounters files parallel. That was scheduled to cease at the end of the year, but this has been put off indefinitely. The cutoff on that will be consistent with when the go-live. If you have questions or concerns please let us know.

The next email in your package I'd sent out regarding changes to the UB form and the 1500 form. This is your opportunity to comment on those. We will take your comments and incorporate them with ours. These items will be on the agenda for the next consortium meeting, to talk through what proposed changes will be where. At one point they were talking about getting rid of the 1500 and going to billing everything on the UB, but they ran into a group that was very resistant to that, so now they're back to revising the 1500. However, when we've reviewed it, we've found the revisions still did not make it consistent with the 837. Please review these items and be prepared to discuss them during the next Consortium. Please submit your questions prior to the next meeting, if possible.

The other item they are looking at is a possible amendment to the 835. If there are particular issues with the 835, please send them to us, as Mary Kay McDaniel has a voice in that effort where they're gathering the information. Several of our providers indicated they are losing data in the 835, as it didn't have the space for a descriptive denial. We are doing a supplemental. We are looking at this as our opportunity to do away with the supplemental, dependent upon these changes to the 835. Think about this: if you share your challenges with us, we have multiple voices to present.

HP – You said it will take a while?
Lori Petre – Yes, this doesn't impact the encounter files, it's the 835 itself. They don't have a format for pended files, which is why we have a supplemental.

More and more of our staff is becoming involved with these committees. For instance, Linda Stubblefield is on the remarks code committee; Mary Kay McDaniel is on several committees. Marsha Solomon is going to join the NUCC committee. We want to be as involved as possible to present a greater voice.

HP – The industry is going towards total EDI, total electronic payment. I understand the desire for EDI and a paperless society. But there are still so many people who use paper claims.
Lori Petre – I think this is a goal, the reality is, the 1500 is not going to go away any time soon. We need to therefore strive for consistency within the formats.

Brent Ratterree – The struggle for EDI is that everyone is pushing to getting rid of paper completely and go with electronic transactions. In the meantime, we receive paper transactions, and we receive electronic transactions. The bottom line is, how do we make the paper and the electronic transactions

match completely. On the other hand, you have people who want one big transaction. That's not going to ever happen, until they get to some future point.

Lori Petre – Mike, is there anything you want to add concerning Encounters?

Mike Upchurch – At this point, everything identified by Brent as critical, is scheduled to be up and ready to be tested in February.

Lori Petre – The one exception to that will be the four-digit revenue code and the 999 lines, alphanumeric bill types, etc... There are a handful of things being done to the Outpatient side. We don't have a specific timeline on that yet. We'll get something out at least thirty days in advance.

Other (Lori Petre)
HP – One of the lines of the contract is "Direct Entry is available for you on the website." Are there any guidelines available concerning this? For instance, what is to be available?
Lori Petre – I am unfamiliar with that in the contract. We will check on it and follow up.
HP – Is it typical to use only one user name and password for an office for web inquiries, etc.?
Lori Petre – Most of our transactions are similar to that, with Master accounts.
HP – So Business to Business would be acceptable, even though potential risk increases?
Lori Petre – That can happen in an organization anyway.
HP – On the web account, does it enforce changing your password after an amount of time?
Lori Petre – I don't have that answer off the top of my head, but we can check on that.
HP – It would be good to have Guidelines on this.

ACTION ITEM (A-837-00431)

Lori Petre – We do have an initiative list of which Web transactions we're evaluating. We can share with. Sometimes it's nice to know we have this on the table.
HP – Will this be on the next agenda?
Lori Petre – Yes, we can add it.

Marcia/Cochise – We didn't receive the documentation for this meeting.
Lori Petre – Nancy Upchurch will follow up on that.

ACTION ITEM (A-OTH-00432)

Brent Ratterree – Just complete your testing as quickly as possible.

Mark/Pima – I have a couple of screenshots from the Public Consulting Website regarding the TPL stuff. The permissions to the website have crashed. Who do I fax this to so I can get Guidelines for Security on the website?
Lori Petre – You can fax the information to Dora Lambert. She will email you with the fax number.

ACTION ITEM (A-837-00430)

Lori Petre – Again, thank you for coming. Those of you who are attending the Outpatient Consortium, there will be a short break. The February meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 2nd, from 9 a.m. – 10 a.m., and the Outpatient Consortium meeting after.

APPENDIX – ACTION ITEMS

Issue/Action #	From Consortium	Assigned to	Description and *Resolution*	Status
A-837-00429	01-04-2005	Dennis Koch	HP – What is the turnaround time for receiving a TA1 or 997 once you've dropped a file? We've received an email on December 27, relating you received the file we sent on that date, but no 997. Dennis Koch – The TA1 or 997 will not be sent without a certified email. It will stay on the hold list until the certified mail is received. Once its certified, the file is released, and picked up for processing. The processing cycle for the purposes of testing, runs every half hour during business hours. HP– we received the verifying email the same day. Dennis Koch – I will look into that.	Open – Awaiting Information
A-837-00430	01-04-2005	Dora Lambert	HP - I have a couple of screenshots from the Public Consulting Website regarding the TPL stuff. The permissions to the website have crashed. Who do I fax this to so I can get Guidelines for Security on the website? Lori Petre – You can fax the information to Dora Lambert. She will email you with the fax number. *Dora Emailed Mark at ITSystems@PimaHealthSystem.org*	Closed
A-837-00431	01-04-2005	Brent Ratterree	HP – One of the lines of the contract is "Information is available for you on the website." Are there any guidelines available concerning the website? For instance, what is to be available? Lori Petre – I am unfamiliar with that in the contract. We will check on it and follow up. HP – Is it typical to use only one user name and password for an office? Lori Petre – Most of our transactions are similar to that, with Master accounts. We have other transactions that we allow web access to. HP – so Business to Business would be acceptable, even though potential risk increases? Lori Petre – That can happen in an organization anyway. HP – On the web account, does it enforce changing your password after an amount of time? Lori Petre – I don't have that answer off the top of my head, but we can check on that. HP – It would be good to have Guidelines on this.	Open – Awaiting Information
A-OTH-00432	01-04-2005	Nancy Upchurch	Marcia/Cochise – We didn't receive the documentation for this meeting. Lori Petre – Nancy Upchurch will follow up on that. *Nancy emailed copies of documentation to Marcia on 1/4/05*	Closed